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NIPPON PINCER DRIVE RAPIDLY CLOSING IN, REVEALS CHUNGKING

Only 250 Kilometers Separate Japanese in North From South, Says Foe Broadcast

Domei

CANTON, July 17.—The distance between the Japanese Forces advancing from both north and south has been reduced to 250 kilometers, according to a Chungking broadcast yesterday. A part of the Japanese Forces pressing southward along the Canton-Hankow Railway has reached Leiyang, while the Japanese Units pushing northward from the Canton area have advanced to Yingtak.

3 Divisions Annihilated

Domei

HUNAN FRONT, July 17.—Japanese Army Units, which had encircled and had been severely pounding the mainstay of the enemy's remaining forces in the neighborhood of Leiyang and Chaling, completely annihilated three enemy divisions by the evening of July 15.

Japanese Forces at dawn of July 14 commenced a furious attack on the remnant troops of Chungking's 26th army and the temporarily organized 54th division that had advanced northward toward the Lei River sector, with the aim of recapturing Leiyang. Crack Japanese Forces completely laid siege to three enemy divisions in the areas of Chingshuitang and Kungpinghsiu as well as in the vicinity of Sungpaiting and literally annihilated them.

On the other hand, another Japanese Unit trapped the mainstay of the enemy's 20th army which attempted to recapture Chaling, and annihilated them in the neighborhood of Taiyuanhsiu, 16 kilometers from Chaling, drowning many of the enemy troops in the river.

On July 14 a part of the Japanese Units captured 15 heavy and light machine-guns, 370 rifles and 550 bayonets. Enemy war prisoners said that on the order from General Hsueh Yueh, Chungking's 20th army mustering its remnant forces put up desperate resistance but it was completely wiped out by the Japanese.

Yingtak's Defenses Pierced

By K. SUGANO

Of the Military Press Corps

SOUTH CHINA FRONT, July 17.—Vanguards of the Japanese Forces protected by the Air Force pushing northward through the mountainous terrain on the western side of the Canton-Hankow Railway crossed the Lien River, a tributary of the Pei River, on July 11.

The Japanese Forces pierced the main territory of Yingtak's defenses and surprise-attacked the enemy's 154th Division and the independently organized Ninth Brigade, strongly entrenched in their permanent defense positions. Thus Yingtak, the first line of defense for Shaokwan, is hard pressed from the west.

Furthermore, the main force of the Japanese Forces has encircled and is tightening the cordon against Chungking's 156th and 159th Divisions on the southern bank of the Lien River. In fact, the 159th Division has been dealt such crushing blow that this Division is in the midst of frenzied flight westward.

Enemy Troops Encircled

By J. SHIMIZU and T. SHIRAISHI

Of the Military Press Corps

SOUTH CHINA FRONT, July 17—Japanese Units which have been dealing heavy blows to enemy troops at various places in the Tsunghua area, Kwangtung Province, on July 12 encircled a part of the enemy's 152nd Division and launched annihilative attacks against the foe in the Kuotang and Wolu sectors.

Out-generalled by the superior Japanese strategy, enemy troops descended from the mountainous areas in an attempt to reconnoiter the Japanese positions in the vicinity of Kuotang and Wolu. However, they were attacked furiously by the Japanese on July 12.

As a result, the main force of 1,500 troops of the 455th Brigade of the 152nd Division of the Chungking army, commanded by General Teng Wei-ting, was encircled. Subsequently, furious operations developed, in the course of which 342 bodies were abandoned by the enemy, including one brigadier commander and seven regimental commanders. The Japanese captured three trench-mortars, three light machine-guns and numerous other arms.

Supreme Commander Gives Last Instruction On Enemy Annihilation

The Imperial Japanese Forces on Saipan Island carried out their last general attack against the invading American forces on July 7. The order by the Supreme Commander of the Imperial Forces commanding all the fighting men to resolve to fight the enemy to the last drop of their blood was issued just before the general onslaught. The gist of the gallant order follows:

"1. The brave fighting of the various Imperial Units, to date, since the landing of the American devils, has displayed the quintessence of the Imperial Forces to the utmost. The Japanese Units, stationed here, will carry out their final general attack on the American devils on July 7.

"2. All Units, early on that morning, should break through the respective enemy lines confronting them, toward Charankanoa, and smash the American devils.

"3. All Units, having selected their respective raiding forces, should order these forces to penetrate deep into the enemy positions, at will, after July 6, seek out the enemy headquarters, artillery positions, tanks and planes, and to blast them and throw the enemy into confusion.

"4. I, as Commander, will ever stand at your head."

OUR AIRMEN BLAST TEN TRUK RAIDERS

15 Enemy Machines Shot Down Between July 11-15 Over Omiyajima

Special to the Nippon Times

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, July 18.—Japanese Fighter Plane Units damaged 10 enemy planes during a furious aerial duel with 51 B-24 bombers that attempted to attack the Truk Islands on July 16. All the other attackers were repulsed. No damage was reported on our side.

Attack on Wotje Fails

Special to the Nippon Times

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, July 18.—A formation of 16 anti-Axis aircraft attacked Rota Island on July 16. Simultaneously, a fleet bombardment was directed at the island.

On the same day, an attack by a group of 26 planes of the anti-Axis air force against Wotje Island failed.

A total of 15 enemy planes were shot down by Japanese Units stationed on Omiyajima Island (Guam), in the period of five days between July 11 to 15.

On July 16, an aggregate total of 170 enemy planes consisting of fighters and bombers attacked Omiyajima. At the same time, a fleet of enemy warships shelled the island.

Pagan Isle Attacked

Special to the Nippon Times

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, July 18.—Sixteen enemy planes on July 16 attacked Pagan Island, the northernmost isle of the Mariana Group.

Brilliant Careers

The brilliant careers of the three commanders who paid the supreme sacrifice in defense of Saipan Island, Vice-Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in the Saipan Area, Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Saito, Commander of the Army Forces on Saipan, and Rear-Admiral Takehisa Tsujimura, Commander of the Naval Forces, are given below:

Vice Admiral Nagumo

Vice-Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, who hailed from Yamaguchi Prefecture, was born in March, 1887.

He studied at the Naval Academy from which he was graduated in 1908. He also was a graduate of the Naval Staff College. He was first appointed commander of the warship Saga. Then he became an instructor at the Naval Staff College. Later, he became commander of the warships Takao and Yamashiro.

The position next filled by Vice-Admiral Nagumo was that of the command of the First Submarine Flotilla. Then he became Principal of the Torpedo School and later of the Naval Staff College.

Vice-Admiral Nagumo was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Sasebo Naval Station on November 11, 1942, and Commander-in-Chief of the Kure Naval Station on June 21, 1943. It was in October of the same year that he was made Commander-in-Chief of a front line.

Lieutenant-General Saito

Hailing from Sendai, Miyagi Prefecture, the late Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Saito was graduated from the Military Staff College in 1924. Immediately after graduation, Lieutenant-General Saito served as instructor at the Cavalry School and then, as a staff member of the 8th Cavalry Regiment, he participated in the Manchurian Incident.

After serving as the commander of the 8th and 24th Cavalry Regiments, Lieutenant-General Saito was appointed Chief-of-Staff of a corps in the homeland. Thereafter, he was appointed Inspector-General of the 4th Replenishment Depot of the Kwantung Army, Director of the Military 4th Depot and Inspector-General of the Central Horse Depot.

It was this year that Lieutenant-General Saito was appointed Commander of the Japanese Army Forces on Saipan Island.

Surviving the late heroic Army Commander of the Saipan Island Forces are his mother, Mrs. Rei Saito, his wife, Mrs. Misao Saito, and 18-year-old first son, Kentaro Saito, a 21-year-old second daughter, Miss Kyoko Saito, and a 15-year-old third daughter, Miss Keiko Saito.

Rear-Admiral Tsujimura

Rear-Admiral Takehisa Tsujimura was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1914. After his graduation he was connected with submarine service for some time. In 1936 the late Rear-Admiral Tsujimura was appointed commander of the warship Itsukushima. In 1939 he was appointed a departmental chief of the Maizuru Naval Arsenal. In 1942 he was promoted to rear-admiral. Since August last year he had been commander of a front base.

Navy Vice-Chief Picked

Vice-Admiral Keijun Oka, Director of the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry, Tuesday was appointed Navy Vice-Minister under Navy Minister Admiral Naokuni Nomura.

OPPORTUNITY GIVEN JAPAN TO WIN WAR STRESSED BY TOJO

Prime Minister Issues Statement Lauding Bravery of Saipan Heroes

A rare opportunity has been afforded Japan to crush the enemy and win victory, declared Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, who, on Tuesday, issued a statement lauding the bravery of the Imperial Forces who met a heroic death on Saipan Island.

Revealing Japan's firm determination to crush the Anglo-American counter-offensive by collaborating with her allies, Prime Minister Tojo said: "Let us, all of our 100,000,000 people together, renew our pledge and our determination to make the supreme sacrifice and concentrate the traditional fighting spirit of our country handed down through 3,000 years to the attainment of the ultimate victory."

The Prime Minister's statement follows:

"In the Marianas since June 11, the officers and men of our Imperial Forces have, by their vigorous fighting, dealt severe blows to the enemy, but Saipan Island finally has fallen into enemy hands. I am moved only with great trepidation by the thought that deep anxiety has been caused to His Imperial Majesty. To the spirit of the brave officers and men and our other countrymen who have died a heroic death in the southern waters in performance of their high duty of defending the Empire, I wish to tender the expression of my most profound and sincere feelings.

"Two and a half years have elapsed since the Imperial Rescript declaring war was graciously granted. During this time, the officers and men of our Imperial Forces have conducted military operations on a grand scale everywhere, the 100,000,000 of our countrymen have overcome hardships of every kind, and all of them, in their respective fields of endeavor, have exerted their utmost efforts for the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. However, our enemy, the United States and Britain, especially the United States, has since gradually increased the intensity of its counter-offensive and has at last advanced into the Marianas.

"Our Empire has now been confronted with a situation which in all our history is the most important. It affords us, at the same time, the rare opportunity to crush the enemy and win the victory. For the defense of our Empire there is, at this juncture, only one road upon which we must advance. It is speedily to crush the enemy and win the victory and only that, without the slightest illusion and without the slightest thought of life or death, by devoting our total strength to the task and by effectively utilizing the lessons of war acquired with the blood of our comrades-in-arms and our other countrymen. Only by doing this shall we be able to answer the many valiant men who have become the guardian deities of our Empire in the War of Greater East Asia.

"The aim of the War of Greater East Asia is clear from the Imperial Rescript declaring war. To us this war is a war to decide the rise or fall of our Empire and also a war for the liberation of Asia. But to the enemy this is a war to enslave Greater East Asia and to dominate the world. It is a fight between defense of existence and evil ambitions, between liberation and aggression. The time for decisive fighting is now at hand. Now is the time completely to crush the Anglo-American counter-offensive by collaborating with the various peoples of Greater East Asia and our European allies.

"The real war is to be fought from now on. Let us, all of our 100,000,000 people together, renew our pledge and our determination to make the supreme sacrifice and concentrate the traditional fighting spirit of our country handed down through 3,000 years to the attainment of the ultimate victory, thereby setting the Mind of His Imperial Majesty at rest."

London Executes Spy

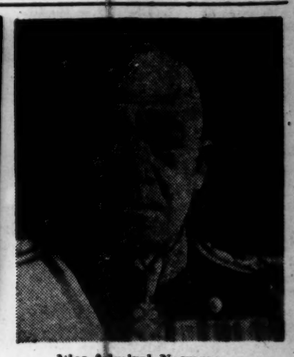
Domei

STOCKHOLM, July 15.—Another spy was executed by the British Government today, raising the total of spies executed in Britain during this war to 16, according to a London dispatch. The dispatch recalled that during the last World War between the years 1914 to 1918, 19 men were sentenced to death as spies and 13 sentences were carried out.

Meet Gallant Death

Rear-Admiral Tsujimura

Lieutenant-General Saito



Vice-Admiral Nagumo

Heroic 30-Day Struggle on Saipan Revealed in Army-Navy Statement

The heroism of the defenders of Saipan Island was recounted in a joint statement issued Tuesday by the heads of the Army and Navy Press Sections.

The statement said:

"The following was the course of fighting on Saipan Island:

"In the earlier part of June a powerful task force of the enemy appeared east of the Mariana Islands and Saipan Island, on June 11, was subjected to air attacks by an aggregate total of 190 enemy carrier-borne aircraft. The next day it was attacked by an aggregate total of 200 and scores of planes, while on June 14 the neighborhood of the Oreai airfield on the southwestern coast of the island was furiously bombarded with ships' guns. The main force of the enemy that appeared near the place of landing was built up around more than a dozen aircraft-carriers, eight battleships and about 70 large transports.

"Before daybreak, on June 15, the enemy commenced terrific bombardment with ships' guns and aircraft and at about 7 a.m., under its cover, sent more than 300 landing barges over the water in an endeavor to effect a wholesale landing near Oreai on the southwestern coast of the island. The Japanese Units stationed on the island at once give battle and more than once beat the enemy back after inflicting heavy losses but, past noon, a part of the enemy force managed to secure a foothold near Cape Susup and since then gradually extended it. Braving the razing bombing and gunfire of the enemy our units continued to counter-attack and by sundown set ablaze more than a dozen enemy tanks by attacking at close quarters. Our air force sank one enemy battleship and one cruiser and set ablaze two other cruisers. Also, in concert with gunfire from land, it sank or damaged numerous enemy landing barges loaded with troops. Relying on the sheer weight of numbers and volume, however, the enemy came on and his strength now reached a full division.

Furious Attacks Launched

"On June 16, by reason of our terrific attacks, the enemy was almost entirely unable to extend his foothold, while day and night the Japanese Units carried out night attacks from the east and north, part of them breaking through as far as Cape Susup, thereby cutting the enemy force in two, south and north, and throwing him into utter confusion but with the dawn on June 17 the enemy bombardment with ships' guns became so fierce that the defenders were compelled to withdraw.

"Thereafter, damage to our side gradually increased under the frenzied bombing of enemy aircraft and gunfire. Beginning about June 19 the defending force was compelled to adjust its front on the line at the center between the town of Garapan and Laulau Bay. Since June 20, the enemy were using the Oreai airfield and the same day the Aslito airfield, too, fell into enemy hands.

"On the other hand, a part of Our Combined Fleet, which had been waiting for an opportunity to smash the enemy, suddenly commenced operation. Against it, an American fleet in the South Pacific area proceeded north and thus, ours and enemy's task forces met in battle in waters west of the Marianas on June 19 and 20. The situation at this point was already described in a communique of the Imperial Headquarters.

"By about June 23 or 24, the sources of water on Saipan Island had been completely destroyed. The island being short of water and provided with few wells, it became extremely difficult to obtain any water supply.

"Furthermore, the enemy, in command of air and sea supremacy, daily intensified warship bombardments and bombing attacks which eventually covered the entire island. For over 10 days following the enemy landing on the island, the Japanese Forces fought bravely day and night. Unfortunately, however, the losses on our part considerably increased, and the movement of our Troops, not to mention night assaults, were rendered difficult by the searchlights from enemy warships and also by flare bombs.

Charge into Enemy Ranks

"Until the evening of June 25, the Japanese Forces maintained the line linking Garapan, the southern foot of Mt. Tapocho and Donnie, but due to the onslaught of the enemy units supported by tanks, the firing line became entangled from about this time. Undaunted in the face of such furious fighting, the Japanese Troops charged into the enemy, some with bombs under their arms, to the great terror of their opponents.

"On the night of June 26, Mt. Tapocho finally fell into enemy hands. Since Mt. Tapocho is the highest peak on Saipan, the enemy immediately established a powerful artillery force on the southern side of the height. Thus, the war situation became very unfavorable for the Japanese. From June 28 on, the enemy attack became further intensified, and the Japanese were forced into a state where all the guns were destroyed and their ammunition exhausted. Despite such predicament, Our Forces kept on fighting, and a part of Our Units, still holding firmly the important points in the southern and southeastern sectors of Mt. Tapocho, prevented the enemy's northward advance. As the war situation became further aggravated, the Imperial Japanese Forces, displaying their characteristic bravery, continued their terrific attacks against the enemy. Some of our soldiers had no water to drink for three days, while some kept on fighting, eating the leaves of tree and even snails. Especially noteworthy is the fact that the Otsu Unit, which had held a key point in the southwestern area of Mt. Tapocho, surprise-attacked and annihilated an enemy force possessing five to six light trench-mortars, and also seven or eight enemy flare units. Upon receiving an order to return to the battalion, a group of 15 surviving soldiers of the unit broke through several enemy lines, and after killing at least 150 enemy troops and destroying the enemy field headquarters, returned to their battalion headquarters. Such instances of heroic action of the Japanese soldiers were seen everywhere on the island.

"In the meantime, the Japanese Air and Sea Units, in order to better the situation on land, daily pounded the enemy positions, munitions dumps and enemy airfield from June 21. On the other hand, the same Units also attacked the enemy fleet in the waters around Saipan and sank two aircraft-carriers and one transport, in addition to damaging one cruiser and one warship of an unknown type as well as blasting some 35 enemy positions.

"Since the enemy task force came attacking the Mariana Islands on June 11, the Japanese Air and Sea Units gained the following war results:

"1. Sank ....Two aircraft-carriers, three battleships, four cruisers, three destroyers, one submarine, two warships of unknown type, two transports;

"2. Sank or damaged ..More than five aircraft-carriers, and over one battleship;

"3. Damaged—Five or six aircraft-carriers, one battleship, three cruisers, three destroyers, one warship of unknown type, seven transports;

"4. Airplanes— shot down..More than 863.

"It is indeed regrettable that despite such brilliant war results, we were unable to frustrate the enemy's malicious attempt.

Supreme Honors Received

"On June 17, the Japanese Units on Saipan Island were honored with words of appreciation from the Throne.

"Again on June 30, they were honored with another gracious message from the Throne.

"The officers and men shed tears of gratitude over the great Imperial Benevolence, and vowed to proceed with the annihilation of the enemy to the last.

"Twenty days of hard fighting had been experienced. A considerable dwindling in our strength was evident. On the other hand, the enemy fire increased in intensity. Their land forces now numbered three divisions. Thus, it came about that our positions were pierced.

"As a result, the front was shortened in the northeastern part of Saipan Island and adjusted, the work being completed by July 4.

By this time, not a single gun remained for use against enemy tanks and the Japanese were placed in the worst position where they had to check the enemy attacks with human bullets.

Next day, July 5, it became necessary to shorten the front at last to the area around Mt. Mappi at the northern extremity of the island.

Thereupon, about 3,000 wounded men, who could not rise because of their wounds, voluntarily ended their own lives. All important papers were burned and destroyed. At night, the same day, the final order to attack was given.

Final Attack Launched

Under this order about 50 groups of raiders who had been selected on the night of July 6, made their stealthy way deep into the enemy positions, and blasted their headquarters, camps as well as guns and planes. Thus, they caused serious disturbances within the enemy positions.

From early daylight next day, the Japanese, with the entire strength at their command, turned to the neighborhood of Charankanoa, the enemy landing point, a long way, and carried out a final heroic attack.

Thus, the Imperial Forces acted, the army and the navy as one body, with Vice-Admiral Nagumo, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Forces in the area, Lieutenant-General Saito, Commander of the Army Unit, Rear-Admiral Tsujimura, Commander of the Navy Unit, at the head of their forces.

Carrying out charge after charge, they killed numerous enemy officers and men.

Subsequently, they fell back to their cavern defenses and kept on battling bravely with the enemy for about 10 days, till finally, they reddened the soil of Saipan with their blood.

On July 16, they died gloriously one after another, shouting Banzai for His Majesty the Emperor and praying for the prosperity of Japan.

The circumstances of this heroic fight were also confirmed by Our Planes making reconnaissance.

Japanese Residents Cooperate

Concerning the resident Japanese, as has been announced by the Imperial Headquarters, they cooperated with the Imperial Forces throughout the fighting. Those of them who had the capacity for fighting were brave enough to take part and shared the fate of the officers and men.

To them, we express profound gratitude and express our deep condolence.

"The enemies, on their part, have confessed that the fight on Saipan Island was the most difficult they have ever experienced on the Pacific, and that the damage sustained in manpower was the heaviest. It was announced that the casualties sustained in the fight reach more than 15,000 as known up to July 10. Of course, this figure is discounted as usual, and it is likely that the real figure will be much larger.

Commander Makes Apologies

"A report to the following in substance was received from the Commander on the spot just before the launching of the general attack:

"I respectfully offer my apologies that I have lost many trusted fighting men of His Imperial Majesty and have not been able to fulfil my duties well. The brilliant exploits rendered by the Imperial Units, which are revealed in the brave fighting of the Otsu Unit and which have displayed the quintessence of the Imperial Forces, are too numerous to be mentioned here.

"I have no time at command to refer in detail to their exploits here and I lack words of apology to the fallen officers and men. Lastly, we all loudly shouted banzais for His Majesty the Emperor—the shouts of the officers and men, who firmly believe in sure victory of the Japanese Empire and are resolved to live eternally for the cause of the great justice with smiles on their faces."

"Yes, in response to the shouts of the officers and men, who sacrificed themselves for eternal justice with the smiles on their faces, believing in sure victory for Nippon, we will without fail display the glorious tradition of the Imperial Forces and profoundly pledge that we will annihilate the enemy, if the arrogant enemy approaches the mainland of Nippon."

JAPANESE ON SAIPAN FIGHT TO HEROIC END AGAINST HEAVY ODDS

Glorious Death Assault Made On July 7, Imperial Headquarters Announces

Launching their final assault against an overwhelmingly numerically superior foe, the gallant Japanese Forces on Saipan Island, who had been engaged in a death-struggle with the landing anti-Axis forces since June 15, charged into the enemy positions on the morning of July 7 and, by July 16, died gloriously in battle after inflicting enormous losses on the invaders, the Imperial Headquarters announced in its communique issued at 5 p.m. on Tuesday.

The Commander of the Army Forces on the island was Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Saito, the Commander of the Navy Forces was Rear-Admiral Takehisa Tsujimura and the Supreme Commander of the area, Vice-Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, all of whom also died in action on Saipan, the communique also revealed.

As for the Japanese residents on the island, the communique stated that they offered fullest cooperation to the Japanese armed forces from the start to the end, those able to fight actively having participated in the fighting, and that all seem to have shared the same fate as the fighting Japanese units.

The communique follows:

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS' COMMUNIQUE
5 p.m. July 18

"1. With their total strength, our Forces on Saipan made their last attack on the enemy from the early morning of July 7 destroying their foe wherever they advanced, a part of them with bravery and daring advancing to the neighborhood of Mt. Tapocho and inflicting enormous losses on the enemy, and by July 16, all of them are believed to have met heroic death.

"The Commander of the Army Forces on Saipan was Lieutenant-General Yoshitsugu Saito and the Commander of the Navy Forces, Rear-Admiral Takehisa Tsujimura. The Supreme Commander in that area, Vice-Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, also died in action on the island.

"2. The Japanese residents on Saipan cooperated with the armed forces from the beginning to the end. Those able to fight actively participated in the fighting and, on the whole, seem to have shared the same fate with our Officers and Men."

Foe Admits Fierce Fight

Domei

LISBON, July 17—Every Japanese officer and man on Saipan Island, while fighting against overwhelmingly greater American forces since their landing on June 15 until the last man and last bullet had inflicted extraordinarily sanguinary losses upon the enemy, it has been learned here.

An announcement from Nimitz's headquarters conceded that on Saipan "the American marines and soldiers had experienced the bloodiest battle in the Pacific war." A UP correspondent from Pearl Harbor reported that the "capture of Saipan was paid with the greatest number of casualties so far in the Pacific war."

CAEN AREA FIGHTING GOING ON UNABATED

Beginning Seen of First Phase Of New Heavy Battle for Entire Orne Estuary Sector

Domei

BERLIN, July 17—The heavy defensive fighting which continued southwest of Caen yesterday must be regarded as the first phase of the new heavy battle for the entire area of the Orne estuary.

Although British spearheads were able to enter Caen, their frontal attack on the town failed to bring the success hoped for and resulted in extraordinary heavy losses in manpower and material.

The enemy yesterday again attempted to break down the German defensive system in this area from the flank using in this attack numerous infantry and tank forces which were concentrated along the entire southwestern flank of the Caen front throughout last week.

Last night the British launched their large-scale attempt with special formations to capture the German scheduled positions on Hill 112 northeast of Esquay whose capture would have given them control of the entire assembly area of the German defensive forces.

After several hours of embittered nocturnal fighting, the attackers were hurled back to their initial positions thus compelling the British to make a wide circle westward to continue their large-scale attack.

The British forces thus made a thrust southward along the Caen-Villers-Bocage road and reached Noyers and from there tried to turn south and southeast in order to roll up the German positions in the area west of Caen. However, strong German reserves launching powerful counter-attacks threw back the British tanks northeastward inflicting heavy casualties.

British Dent Sealed

The British 2nd assault group attacking from the south achieved a small dent at Gavrue and Bougy on the Odon River after protracted and embittered fighting. The dent was however, sealed off before the British group had reached Evrecy and Hill 113 situated to the north. Heavy fighting in that sector continued all night and was still lasting this morning without the British having been able to widen their dent. The British group lost at least 60 tanks besides several thousand dead.

Fighting in the American invasion sector was considerably less intensive than the previous days which is due obviously to the heavy losses suffered by the Americans in their general offensive on the front from St. Lo to the Normandy west coast.

As already reported, the Americans had moved up to within a few kilometers of the outskirts of St. Lo, but all further attempts to gain more ground toward the town were smashed by local German defensive forces with severe casualties to the Americans.

Last night, German units carried out successful local actions against the American dent and narrowed it down considerably besides capturing numerous prisoners and three heavy tanks.

In the only active sector yesterday between the Vire and Taute rivers, the American high command concentrated tank troops in the narrow area south of Bois du Homme with the object of breaking through to the southwest. Heavy fighting though sporadically continued all day yesterday.

In all the remaining front sectors, the Americans made thrusts with infantry and tank forces, but were generally weaker than those of the previous day and were easily repulsed by the German troops who knocked out nine enemy tanks.

7 Foe Planes Downed

Domei

BERLIN, July 17.—Six Spitfires and one Thunderbolt were shot down by German fighters during their operations over the invasion front which were concentrated mainly west of the Orne River and in the Caen area where direct hits were observed on troop, tank and vehicle concentrations.

German fighters also attacked Anglo-American balloons used as artillery observation posts and brought down four of them.

Suma Sees Jordana

Domei

MADRID, July 16.—Prior to his departure for Berlin yesterday, Yakichiro Suma, Japanese Minister to Spain, called on General Count Francisco G. Jordana, Spanish Foreign Minister, on July 14 and held a conversation with him for about one hour.

Bullitt Becomes Scribe

Domei

LISBON, July 16.—William Bullit, former U.S. Ambassador to Paris, has joined the staff of the American magazine Life as a war correspondent and to assume his position has arrived in Algiers, according to a Reuter report.

Press Comments

Tuesday, July 18

CHANGE OF NAVY MINISTER

ASAHI—The change of the Navy Minister has just been announced.

In wartime the movement of a State Minister is of particular importance. This is the more so in the case of a State Minister directly concerned with warfare. It is also quite noteworthy that, so far as the Navy is concerned, the Chief of the General Staff and the Minister have been made separate posts as formerly. Those who are in charge of strategic operations do not like to be bothered with administrative affairs. They wish to devote themselves heart and soul to the planning of strategic moves. The Minister, on the other hand, is preoccupied with administrative affairs, personnel and the like. There is a wide gulf between the tasks of the two. In this we see the reasons for the change of the Navy Minister.

It is clear that one of the points of the present change has been that by separating administration from command, putting a fit man in each post, a broader harmony and increased efficiency has been assured. It is the Imperial prerogative to combine in one person the right of command and of administration. The internal State structure is now being adjusted along this line. The change of the Navy Minister is significant as marking a step in such an adjustment. As a result of it the structure of our Government will be strengthened and the highest efficiency achieved in advising the Throne.

WAR SITUATION IN WESTERN EUROPE

MAINICHI—The war situation in Western Europe, as expected, is developing favorably for the Germans. The Anglo-American troops are reported to have been 500,000 strong landing in Normandy and were scheduled to enter Paris by July 16, but they are still unable to leave the Cotentin Peninsula. German military authorities point out that the invaders are already showing signs of internal collapse.

The German offensive on the British Isles, on the other hand, is steadily intensifying. Forty days since the Germans first unleashed their swift and relentless death weapon, the Anglo-Americans are still unable to find a means of coping with the unknown terror. All they have managed to do is to discover that the V-1's are being discharged from "certain points" in northern France. The Germans, meanwhile, have succeeded in increasing the deadly efficacy of the V-1's. By lengthening the range of the missiles, they have been able to shift the firing points farther back into the continent. This means that the Anglo-Americans will have another hard task in locating these new points. The Germans are said to have also increased the accuracy of aim of the V-1.

At any rate, what the Germans call the "Third Front," and what the British call the "Battle of London," is now about to reach its height. Britain, stifling her groans, is striving to hide her wounds, but there are things impossible to conceal. It is reported that London post office and telephone office employes are to be alternated with those of Manchester. This may be considered a sign that the people of London are completely exhausted after their 40 days' vigil and require a complete rest. Such being the effect on human beings, what must be the damage to property?

The V-1's are also responsible for the delay in the invasion operations of the Anglo-American forces. The severe damage being sustained by military establishments in southern England must certainly be reflected in the war situation in Normandy. Moreover, the Germans are said to be preparing another new arm reserved for the welcome of the enemy landing forces. This will probably be used at the moment when the enemy completes his landing operations.

Finnish Minister's Son Killed

Domei

BERLIN, July 16.—The only son of Kaarb Johannes Ellilae, Finnish Minister of Supply, was killed in action on the Karelian front, it was announced today by the Finnish Government. Ellilae, Jr. is the third son of a Finnish Cabinet Minister to be killed in action recently. The other two were the son of General Karl Rudolf Walden, Minister of Defense, and the son of Viljami Kalliokoski, Minister of Agriculture.

43 American Raiders Downed in Districts Of Bavaria and Vienna

Domei

BERLIN, July 17.—The American air force lost at least 43 machines including 35 four-engined bombers in its terror raids on the Bavarian and Vienna areas yesterday through concerted action by German fighter formations and flak batteries.

BRITAIN FIGHTS U.S. FOR CHINA MARKET

British and Americans Coveting Country's Resources, Reveals Times Scribe

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, July 17.—In rivalry with the United States, Britain is making a strong bid for the Chinese market which she has been slowly losing since her reverses in Hongkong, Singapore and Burma, reports the Times correspondent in China. Although wishing to develop China to the interests of Britain, the British at the same time, are afraid that a prosperous and industrialized China, with its vast population of intelligent people, forms a potential danger from the point of view of the country's enormous manpower, states the correspondent.

The dispatch follows:

"Great Britain's stock in Chiffa has been low since the days of British reverses in Hongkong, Singapore and Burma and the United States gained the ground lost by Britain, first by the work of her air force in China and then by her prompt loan of £100,000,000. A parallel offer of £50,000,000 from Britain has only recently been accepted by Chungking and although there were probably valid reasons for the delay, political recovery from financial disappointment always takes time.

"In one way or another, we found ourselves in relatively poor repute. Chinese stock in Britain also suffered something of a setback—not from China's fault but from cumulative war pressures. Her contribution to the war effort, both militarily and economically, lost its first impetus.

Chungking Conditions Saddening

"Conditions today are bad and very saddening to Chungking's friends. Although it will be no easy task, we can play a vital part in bringing about a happier state of affairs. A well-informed American, travelling through Chungking China last year, said that he could imagine no more difficult task than the linking of Britain to Chinese postwar developments."

"We should not delay too long in shaping our major policy. In the political field, Britain cannot afford to stand aside and passively watch China slipping back after the war to those internal rivalries that lead to civil war and famine. That would create a political vacuum which would afford an excuse to some Power to police or control and then take over the slices of territory essential to her recovery.

"The stage would be set for another war which would sooner or later involve British interests. Even quiet and undeveloped China proved dangerous and such a state in the future would inevitably attract resurgent Japan. On the other hand, a prosperous and industrialized China, with its vast population of intelligent and skilful people, cannot but be regarded as a potential danger from the point of view of her enormous manpower.

"The more she develops, however, the more she will stand to lose in the war and her traditional pacifism is still strong. Development can only become reality if the Chinese receive the friendly cooperation of industrialized Powers. Since the 19th century, fears have beset the country—fear of exploitation by the great Powers, fear of Japan, of the Soviet Union and fear of the Communists. Added to these fears are the problems of famine and want. Life can only go on when all these fears have been removed.

Urges Triple Cooperation

"If Britain and the United States would cooperate in the industrial and agricultural development of China, these problems would be solved. If the Soviet Union would come in, so much the better and no doubt the Dominions and advanced countries like Holland could and would make their contributions.

"American economists and industrialists are already busy with plans for the shipbuilding industry as well as plans for the iron and steel and chemical industries. Doctor Cressey stated last year that China would become one of the greatest industrial areas after the war. He added that trade with her can solve some of the more serious financial problems of the United States.

"What is to be the future British attitude toward the Chinese market? Until a few years ago, Britain had a large share of it and China obtained from us a considerable proportion of her steel and iron machinery and textiles carried in British ships. Then the Japanese and German share increased rapidly until Britain took fourth place in the list of importers. It seems agreed that if there is to be employment and a high standard of living in Britain after the war, we must increase our exports.

"Can we afford to neglect the trade afforded by a quarter of the world's population? Without planned development, industrial and agricultural China may be the starting point of another war.

China Wants Industries

"This development should not be left to America alone to undertake. Englishmen, who know China, are convinced that we can overcome the difficulties of the present situation and win back the respect and friendship of the Chinese. What sort of development should be fostered toward that end? And how best can we help? The Chinese are determined on industrial reconstruction. They realize that without industries, they cannot improve their standard of living. They realize that a country can defend itself against attack only with its heavy industries fully developed and it would be difficult to convince her that she will be free from all menace of attack during the next few decades.

"Chinese assets are large and industrialization would follow fairly rapidly if the country had proper guidance in planning reconstruction. Such economic and technical guidance is even more important than financial help.

"The study of postwar problems leads insistently to the realization that the basis of China's development must be agricultural. Imports will be paid for by increasing export of agricultural products. To increase this export, China must produce more from the land and perfect transport facilities.

Crop Yields Small

"The crop yields per acre have been small with the exception of rice. Forty per cent increase in crops can be reasonably expected by the application of fertilizers. Further increases can be obtained by better seeds, use of insecticides and better farming methods. Next, to improve transport and communications, no single development is as important as the production of millions of tons of chemical fertilizers. Other industrial enterprises necessary are the iron and steel industry, chemical, general engineering and shipbuilding. Modern industries are so interlocked that they can be wisely planned only if considered first as a whole.

"China needs guidance along the right lines in this reconstruction as it is not likely she will make a success of her industrialization without western cooperation. The old days have gone and we must look at East Asiatic problems from new and detached points of view.

"Could not the first practical step be arranged with the Chungking regime to send out a small group of technical and economic experts who would sit down with their Chinese counterparts and study the general and more urgent schemes of planned development? The keynote of our policy, in fact, must be practical cooperation with the Chinese. They need the material but even more, they require technical knowledge and guidance.

BIG LOSS IN MEN ADMITTED

American-Chungking Army in Burma Short of Troops

Domei

SHANGHAI, July 16.—The American-Chungking army in northern Burma has suffered severely from furious Japanese bombing and is desperately trying to make up for the heavy losses in personnel, says a Kunming dispatch intercepted here.

The dispatch further states that in view of the pressing demand for reinforcements, the Chungking army authorities have decided to dispatch troops now being trained at Kweiyang. It is reported that one battalion has already arrived at Kunming and is ready to depart for the destination by the first available transport plane and that the second and third battalions are also expected to arrive in Kunming shortly.

However, the report points out, it is extremely difficult to send a large number of troops by only occasionally available air transport and that Chungking is greatly worried over the situation.

Youths in England Resort to Plunder In Wake of V-1 Raids

Domei

GENEVA, July 17.—The ever-increasing juvenile crime wave in England is being given much prominence by the London press. It has become necessary for the Home Guards to assist the patrolmen in their activities against youthful plunderers, writes the News Chronicle. Many wives of men at the front who had been injured by V-1 missiles and had been taken to the hospital, are now returning home only to discover that everything had been stolen during their absence. Bands composed of boys ranging in age from 14 to 18 years have been formed for the special purpose of plundering. Such bands have become a real menace in southern England, emphasizes the Daily Express. Shortly after a V-1 missile explodes, these young offenders appear upon the scene and, pretending to assist in the rescue work, begin to plunder whatever they can lay their hands upon.

ANTI-AXIS NOT ABLE TO STOP V-1 ATTACK

Morrison Warns Public More Danger Expected; Urges Immediate Evacuation

Domei

GENEVA, July 17.—Declaring that the anti-Axis military authorities had not yet succeeded in overcoming the V-1, British Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, after visiting the bombed districts, warned the public that the danger from the flying bombs would probably continue for an indefinite time, reports the London press.

Voicing his dissatisfaction at the way in which the damage was being repaired, Morrison advised all who had no urgent work or families to look after, to leave those districts. He further advised all parents to accept the plan of temporary separation from their children.

These statements by the Home Secretary were called "superfluous" by the Daily Sketch. "Since all who are not blind can see for themselves that the flying bomb has not yet been adequately coped with, Morrison's words to the public are as pointless as an announcement of the death of Queen Ann will be at this time," commented this journal.

Face Double Menace

Domei

LISBON, July 17.—Not only London, but the "bombing alley" which includes all the areas lying on the path taken by the V-1's on their way to the British capital, is suffering from the effects of the deadly German weapon, according to the Daily Express.

The paper said that the entire bombing alley is crowded with A.A. guns, and the fragment of the shells fired from these guns as well as the bullets from British fighter planes trying to shoot down the V-1's fall into this area, presenting a constant menace to the population. Rural districts get no warning of the approach of flying bombs and there are neither sirens nor any deep air-raid shelters.

Meanwhile, the Daily Sketch pointed out that the youngsters in southern England who had been conscripted for the task of cutting timber for mines are now engaged in the construction of air raid shelters as they are now exposed to the danger of flying bombs. It was added that the trees cut down as material for mining timber are now being used for the construction of dugouts and air-raid shelters.

Readying V-2

Domei

BERLIN, July 17.—Even while the British authorities are in the midst of a frantic search for a means to combat the deadly efficacy of the V-1, there are indications that another and more deadly German weapon, the V-2, will soon make its appearance. The first report on this new war weapon was recently made in a broadcast by Dr. Rudolf Semler, Dr. Joseph Goebbel's assistant, who revealed that the effect of the V-2 as compared with that of the V-1 is equal to an attack by 1,000 four-motored bombers.

Dr. Marvy Haigh, Bishop of Winchester, revealed at his diocese conference that even during the first week of the Anglo-American invasion operations the British troops had suffered fewer casualties than were suffered by the people of southern England in the first week of the V-1 bombing. The Bishop also voiced the probability that the British Government would doubtless call Germany's attention to the fact that the latter would be called upon to answer for all the damage wrought by the V-1 after the termination of the war.

Competent German quarters, commenting on this point, remarked that the Bishop's discourse was nothing more than an attempt by Britain to win the world's sympathy. In this connection, they pointed to the repeated and wanton bombings of German cities and towns by British airmen. They stressed that at that time no objection had been raised by the Bishop of Winchester to the cruel massacre of German women and children. They also recalled that both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Church of England, the official church organ, even went so far as to advocate the bombing of Germany's civilian population and the destruction of German cities.

The Vicar of Woolton, they continued, in a letter to the Daily Mail on October 30, 1940, had even written: ". . . . destroy the Cathedral of Cologne, bomb St. Peters in Rome, let the fleet shell Genoa and destroy the marble palaces."

Prongs Nearly Meet

Only 250 kilometers now separate the Japanese Forces advancing from the north and south simultaneously along the Canton-Hankow railway area, admits a Chungking broadcast. The above map shows the scene of the central China battlefront. (See story on Page One.)

FOE IN ITALY MAKES INSIGNIFICANT GAIN

German Delaying Actions Foil Enemy From Encircling Reich Forces

Domei

BERLIN, July 17.—While the fighting on the central Italian Front remained generally stationary, Ludwig Seritorius, Transocean correspondent, today reviewed the developments over the weekend.

Pointing out that the German troops are still fighting delaying actions, withdrawing slowly toward the north while inflicting heavy losses upon the enemy with minimum cost, the correspondent stressed that the Anglo-Americans have thus far been prevented from achieving a break-through and encircling larger parts of the German forces. He said that the Americans are compelled to make costly frontal attacks as characterized the fighting over the weekend.

In the Ligurian coastal sector, the left wing of the American 5th army despite all efforts could gain only little ground beyond the line extending from Rosignano-Pecololi toward Leghorn and Pisa. Enemy pressure nevertheless still continues in this sector.

Farther inland, the situation is less clear. The town of Poggibonsi which the De Gaullist troops captured on Friday and which was recaptured Sunday morning by German troops is still bitterly contested.

Arezzo, on the other hand, which after the loss of Monte Lignano becoming extremely costly to hold, was left to the British who attacked in great strength. While inflicting heavy losses in men and material on the enemy, the German defenders withdrew to the steep hills closing a mountain are around Arezzo in the north and to the dominating gateways into the upper Arno Valley.

The defensive battle in the upper Tiber Valley has shifted to the Monte San Maria and Citta di Castello areas while in the Umbrian Apennines and on the Adriatic coast, the enemy is only slowly following the German movements. Due to his losses suffered in a sharp counter-blow in the area of Sassoferrato and on the Musone River the enemy is keeping at a safe distance.

Building New Bombers

Domei

LISBON, July 17.—The Curtiss Wright Aircraft Works is reported to be concentrating on the manufacture of new-type Curtiss SB2C dive-bombers with a specially powerful motor for the United States navy, according to an article in the Aeroplane.

LOCAL FIGHT RAGES AT KARELIAN FRONT

Finns Foil Incessant Soviet Tank Attacks From Bridgehead Near Vuosalmi

Domei

BERLIN, July 17.—Fighting at the Finnish Front has been revived again lately particulary at the Karelian front where the Soviets had confined themselves to artillery fighting for nearly one week.

In the western sector of the Isthmus, fighting consisted of few local Soviet enterprises at some places which were easily repelled by the Finnish troops. Heavy artillery and trench-mortar fire on both sides indicates, however, an increase of Soviet offensive activity there.

In the eastern part of the Vuosalmi area where activity has increased considerably, Soviet forces supported by tank formations repeatedly attacked from their bridgehead positions. All their attempts to widen their base, however, failed in the face of Finnish fire.

In the fighting area northeast of Lake Ladoga where heavy fighting has never abated, the Soviets again yesterday pushed forward toward the Pitkaranta and Loimola sectors after strong artillery preparation against the Finnish defense lines, but were unable to overcome the resistence of the Finnish defenders as well as at Suojarvi where particularly violent fighting ensued. Fierce battles are still continuing in that sector especially at one indentation.

In the meantime, German and Finnish air squadrons continued lively attacks against Soviet artillery positions and tank and troop concentrations particularly south of Ihantala and Vuosalmi and northeast of Lake Ladoga.

Soviet Attack Checked

Domei

HELSINKI, July 17.—The Soviet attack on Finland has been checked since the battle of Viipuri four weeks ago, stated the Helsingin Sanomat. The Soviets in the meantime were able to achieve only limited successes, the journal said adding that the temporary difficulties in the first phase of the battle have now been overcome and the Finnish front has been stabilized everywhere.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

July 17

British divisions southwest of Caen launched a large-scale attack yesterday. The enemy attack was supported by heavy artillery fire from land and sea. The enemy succeeded in penetrating several places immediately behind the front but later was thrown back by strong counter-thrusts carried out by our reserves. At one point of an enemy salient fierce fighting is still in progress. Altogether 58 enemy tanks were destroyed.

In the St. Lo area and the district west of the Vire River the enemy, who had suffered heavy losses during the previous days, made only weak attacks.

A British E-boat was severely damaged by German patrol boats off the Dutch coast. The sinking of the damaged British boat is assumed.

In southern France 460 terrorists were killed in mopping-up operations.

V-1 attacks on London are being continued.

In Italy, the focal point of the fighting was northeast of Volterra, at Arezzo and on both sides of the Tiber. While all enemy attacks were repulsed, the ruins of Arezzo were lost after embittered fighting. A patrol boat of the German navy, operating off the Italian west coast, set aflame one British E-boat and forced several others to withdraw.

In the southern sector of the Eastern Front, the defensive battle east of the Bug in the upper Ukraine increased in intensity. In the heavy fluctuating fighting the Soviet tank forces, attacking from the direction of Tarnopol and Lutsk, were checked. Here 125 enemy tanks were destroyed during the last two days.

Hard fighting is continuing on a wide front between the Pripet and the Dvina. Several Soviet attempts at breaking through in the Njemen area were foiled by our divisions. At Grodno our troops withdrew to the western bank of the Njemen after the systematic evacuation of the city.

In the lake district south of the Dvina repeated enemy attacks collapsed with heavy losses to the attackers. Between the Dvina and Lake Peipus numerous Soviet attacks were frustrated. It was only in the area south of Opochka that the enemy was able to gain ground after fluctuating fighting.

The Luftwaffe with strong battle-plane formations participated in the defensive battles at the focal points and, in low-level attacks, inflicted heavy losses on the Soviets. Numerous enemy tanks, guns and 400 enemy vehicles were destroyed. In furious air combats, 88 enemy aircraft were downed and another nine enemy planes were brought down by the flak.

In the Balkans a major force of partisan troops was mopped up after heavy fighting. The Communists lost over 1,400 men. Numerous light and heavy weapons, 19 depots with large quantities of ammunition and foodstuffs and war equipment of every kind were destroyed or seized.

Off the southern Norwegian coast escort vessels of a German convoy downed six British bombers.

American bomber formations attacked several places in southern and southwestern Germany, including Saarbruecken and Augsburg. Munich was attacked with major forces. In some places considerable damage and losses were caused, especially in Munich on which the enemy within five days made four large-scale raids under weather conditions which were adverse to the German defense. The bearing of the population was exemplary.

Another American bomber formation, approaching from the south, attacked Vienna causing damage in the city and losses among the population. A.A. defense forces destroyed 43 enemy aircraft.

Some British aircraft dropped bombs on the Rhenish-Westphalian area last night.

FRENCH CITY IS BOMBED

26 Dead, 38 Injured in Nevers in Anglo-U.S. Terror Raid

Domei

PARIS, July 17.—Heavy Anglo-American air raids carried out against Nevers late Saturday night and Sunday morning destroyed numerous tenement houses and a number of casualties have been reported.

The famous cathedral of the town was almost completely destroyed and the Gothic part of the edifice was left a heap of debris. At the same time, several Paris suburbs were also raided and preliminary reports disclosed 26 dead and 38 injured.

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NOMURA STRESSES NAVY'S WAR SPIRIT

Says His Appointment Made Only to Meet Changing Battle Situation

Declaring that there was no special meaning attached to the change in the post of the Navy Minister, Admiral Naokuni Nomura, newly-appointed Navy Minister, met the press on Monday night at his official residence and expressed the iron determination of the Imperial Japanese Navy as follows:

"The change in the post of the Navy Minister was merely made in order to meet the kaleidoscopic war situation which necessitates the Navy Minister as well as the Chief of the Naval General Staff to pursue their respective duties to the fullest extent. With the war situation developing so swiftly, there are, of course, many things which must be attended to quickly.

"The Navy has further tightened its firm determination to fight out the war. I sincerely hope that the whole nation will give unstinted support to the Navy. In any war, changes are bound to take place in the war situation. Therefore, the people should forge ahead toward final victory with the pride of a great nation, regardless of whatever change or happening that may occur.

"It is my sincere hope that the Japanese people, undeceived by the enemy's false propaganda, will trust our flawless Imperial Japanese Navy and further tighten their determination to fight the war to the finish."

Nomura's Boyhood Recalled

Admiral Naokuni Nomura, new Navy Minister had an excellent scholastic record and furthermore, always volunteered to undertake difficult tasks, commented Juemon Isashiki, 61, Hinoguchi-cho, Kagoshima, who was a classmate of Admiral Nomura in the First Middle School in the city, according to the Asahi.

At the announcement of the appointment of Admiral Nomura as Navy Minister, Kagoshima residents were overwhelmed with joy and became proud of being natives of Kagoshima which had previously produced Admiral Count Gombei Yamamoto, a former Prime Minister, and Fleet-Admiral Marquis Heihachiro Togo. At the time of the Russo-Japanese War, Admiral Count Yamamoto as Navy Minister and Fleet-Admiral Marquis Togo as Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Fleet, guided the destiny of Japan.

The new Navy Minister hails from Yoshitoshi-mura, Hioki-gun, Kagoshima Prefecture. In 1904 when the Russo-Japanese War was in progress, he finished the fourth grade of the middle school from where he entered the Naval Academy. His devotion to his mother, Fude, 80, who is still in good health and who is residing in Kagoshima, is well known among his friends. Sometime in May this year he visited his mother inquiring after her health. On that occasion, he made encouraging addresses at his Alma Mater, the First Middle School and also at the Second Middle School.

Recalling the days in the middle school together with Admiral Nomura, Mr. Isashiki said:

"I was in the same class with Admiral Nomura. Not only that, we stayed together in the dormitory. Admiral Nomura did exceedingly well at school. One fall, we planned to climb Mt. Sakurajima and got our rice ready in a sack but it was so heavy that everybody was reluctant to carry it. Then Admiral Nomura volunteered to carry it and started climbing the mountain with that heavy sack on his back. Seeing him struggling over the mountain, the others suggested to take turns in carrying it. Thus, even in his boyhood, Admiral Nomura had already possessed the spirit of self-sacrifice.

"Our school had two old fashioned boats, trophies of the Sino-Japanese War, which were presented by a certain naval officer who hailed from Kagoshima. They were both old and slow in speed. The Commercial School which had some boats of the latest model, often challenged our school to a boat-race. We all grumbled for not being provided with better craft, but Admiral Nomura, without a word of complaint, was wont to take part in the race aboard the rotten boat and did his utmost to beat his opponents. That indomitable fighting spirit which was often manifested in his boyhood, is deeply imbedded in him."

Envoy Okubo Relieved

Toshitaka Okubo, Japanese Minister to Hungary, has been relieved of his post, it was announced by the Cabinet on Tuesday.

Six Indian Soldiers Chase and Wipe Out 11 Yankee Fliers in Exciting Gun Battle

Domei

SOMEWHERE IN BURMA, July 17.—Level-headedness combined with bravery enabled a handful of Indian soldiers to kill in a gun battle a crew of 11 Americans manning a bomber which was forced to land on the northern Burma border a few weeks ago, according to dispatches from the battlefield.

A group of five Indians under the command of Lieutenant Puran Singh was undertaking reconnaissance duty in the forest-clad area on the northern Burma border when they heard the drone of an airplane motor. A few minutes later they noticed an enemy plane flying at a low altitude emitting black smoke from its tail.

In an attempted landing, the pilot presumably lost control as the plane crashed into a tree. Eleven men quickly ran out from the burning plane carrying what appeared to be important documents.

Lieutenant Singh and his men immediately went into action, and descending the rugged paths dashed toward the 11 Americans who tried to escape into the jungle upon sighting the Indian soldiers.

During the ensuing exchange of fire, all save one American was killed. Two Indians were wounded, one of them rather seriously. On finding the missing enemy perched in a tree, the wounded Indian soldier summoned his last ounce of strength and shot the enemy outright.

AIR FORCE IN CHINA SET TO SMASH FOE

Japanese Firmly Convinced U.S Planes on Continent Can Be Exterminated

By Y. MIURA
Of the Military Press Corps

BASE ON THE CONTINENTAL FRONT, July 16.—With airmen whom nothing can daunt and aircraft and other arms of highest excellence, the Japanese on the first line of the continental front are firmly convinced that they will be able to destroy every single American plane now operating in China, the commander of a certain Japanese Army Air Unit declared here today in the course of an interview he granted me.

I wanted to know, first of all, the significance of the operations now being conducted in China, especially against the American military bases.

The commander replied: "The United States army air force in China established a foothold for air-raiding Japan in southeastern China and constructed innumerable air bases over a vast area east of Kweilin. It was about to begin its operations in real earnest when the Japanese suddenly launched their offensive against those bases. Panic-stricken, the enemy transferred their bases on the southeastern front and the northern front to the hinterland, withdrawing its main strength as far as the line connecting Kunming and Chungking. On the other hand, it left powerful mobile forces at such bases as Kweilin, Chihkiang, Tanchuk and Liuchow in order to take the Japanese by surprise on the first line. It also began constructing bases in the central and northwestern areas. Then, on the strength of the newly-arrived B-29's, it carried out a second air raid on northern Kyushu. Judging from these activities, I think that the enemy strategy on the continent is to operate in wave-like momenta over a long period on the strength of its tremendous material volume. The idea is to enlarge the undulations with time until the momentum of attack grows to overwhelming proportions. Against the vast material resources of the enemy, we are operating by sheer force of quality and moral strength, careful planning, high mobility and accurate effect."

"How do the enemy and our air strength compare?"

Commander: "Against a certain volume of the enemy we must absolutely pit a certain minimum of volume. So far as volume is concerned, ours is rather small but it is sufficient. Our airmen are asking for more planes because they wish to destroy the incarnation of astronomical figures, which is the enemy, thoroughly and in short order. But we can cover the quantitative deficit with our fighting spirit and high efficiency. We have been able to obtain the fine results we did in the raids on Chihkiang, Kweilin and Tanchuk because our airmen knew their exact capabilities and compensated for their lack of volume with the strength of spirit. They chose night time, under conditions of extreme difficulty, to attack and thus achieved the brilliant results. The strength of the spirit and quality are two essential factors for overcoming the 'monster of volume'."

"What is the enemy doing now?"

"The enemy is seeking to wage a decisive war in the air, so that even after a series of such disastrous defeats he is not likely to yield so easily. The crafty Americans, ready to take advantage even of reverses, are likely to attack us from the northwest, now contemptuous of Chungking's fighting strength."

"The enemy is now briskly conducting night raids.

"We are aware of the volume of materials the enemy can put forth but in point of quality he is pitiable. You see that this air base has received bomb-attacks ten days consecutively but, you note, we haven't received a scratch.

"I am always impressed by the readiness with which my officers and men will lay down their lives,

Filipinos Will Fete Every September 7 As Constitution Day

Domei

MANILA, July 17.—President Jose P. Laurel, today, issued a proclamation declaring September 7 of every year "Constitution Day" and simultaneously directed the Kalibapi to make preparations for the celebration of the day throughout the Philippines. President Laurel said, "The Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines embodies the traditional aspirations of the Filipino people to live a free and independent existence and constitutes the living force that binds all Filipinos together and carries them forward to the attainment of their destiny. It is fitting and proper that a day of every year should be set aside for the glorification and veneration of our Constitution to infuse into the heart, mind, and soul of the people its transcendent importances so that, fully understanding its meaning, they will regard it with deep reverence and profound respect."

TAGALOG TONGUE ENJOYS GREAT POPULARITY IN P.I.

Poets, Dramatists, Song Writers Are Using Language to Propagate Movement

Domei

MANILA, July 17.—Indicative of the growing popularity of Tagalog as the national language of the Philippines, many new literary forms have come into being during the past several months.

In poetry, free verse is becoming the vogue, with many well-known poets using it as a medium of expressing the best thoughts and sentiments in metrical form. A conservative poet recently criticized the increasing use of free verse, branding such a tendency as "a disgrace to Filipino poetry" but free verse advocates overwhelmed his criticism, a stand which is openly supported by Liwayway, leading Tagalog magazine.

Sanaysays (essay) is also popular among Tagalog writers, familiar essay being the number one favorite. Many Filipino writers in English are now writing sanaysays, thereby adding impetus to the national language movement here.

Tagalog drama has also undergone a marked change, with one act plays, which are classical in structure, being shown in most Manila theaters. Musical plays (30 to 40 per cent of which being music) seem to be a craze here, as young theater-goers are great music lovers.

In this connection, a great number of songs in Tagalog is being composed and "tried" on the stage. These songs represent the joint efforts of composer and lyric writer, who is usually a poet. The adoption of Tagalog on the stage has attracted many dramatic talents even from non-Tagalog speaking provinces. For this reason, Tagalog dramas are considered one of the best means of propagating the national language.

their sense of responsibility and their dauntless fighting spirit. So remote from the scene, yet their sense of responsibility is such that they even regard the American air raids on northern Kyushu as something for which they are responsible. 'So long as we are alive, we won't let the Yanks lay a finger on Japan', they are saying. With these men whom nothing can daunt and aircraft and other arms of the highest excellence, we are convinced that we shall be able to destroy every single American plane now in China."

PEOPLE'S SAVINGS REGISTER INCREASE

Fund of Deposit Bureau of Finance Ministry Passes ¥30 Billion Mark

The ¥30,000,000,000 mark was passed by the fund of the Deposit Bureau of the Finance Ministry which totaled ¥30,720,923,000 on July 12, showing an increase of ¥10,700,000,000 when compared with the sum of ¥20,010,610,000 as of June 5 last year.

The fund of the Deposit Bureau mainly consists of postal savings which takes up about 73 per cent of the total savings debentures, Hokoku Saiken, postal life insurance premiums, postal annuity deposits, and other deposits of various Government enterprises.

The total fund of the Deposit Bureau stood on June 30, 1937, just before the outbreak of the China Affair, at only ¥4,694,592,000, but on December 8, 1941, when the War of Greater East Asia broke out, it totaled ¥11,957,284,000. In July, last year, it passed the ¥20,000,000,000 mark, and this year it passed the ¥30,000,000,000 mark.

The major portion of the fund is being utilized for the purchase of national bonds, and at present more than ¥22,000,000,000 or 71 per cent of the total is invested in national bonds. The entire amount brought to the Deposit Bureau from postal savings is devoted to the purchase of bonds. Recently, the national bond holdings of the Bureau rapidly increased, in comparison with other investments. Directly before the outbreak of the China Affair, the Bureau's investments consisted of 43 per cent in national bonds, 28.3 per cent in local debentures and loans to local public organizations, and 23.4 per cent in debentures of special banks and corporations. But now the investments in national bonds have increased to 71 per cent, while those in local government debentures declined to 7.5 per cent and those in special banks and corporations to 14.4 per cent.

This development is due to the reduction of the importance of local funds under wartime economy. Loans obtained by local governments in the past have been replaced by subsidies in many instances. Special banks and corporations used to obtain their necessary funds from the Hypothec Bank, Agricultural Banks and other banking institutions, but at present the fund necessary for increasing production of war requirements and foodstuffs is mostly supplied by local low-interest capital.

East Asia Round-Up

Sponsoring Essay Contest
Domei

DJAKARTA, July 18.—The Java Press Association is at present sponsoring an essay contest on the subject "What is the Japanese Spirit?" and "Java's Battle Structure." The essays must be written in either Malai or the Japanese language. The prize-winning essay will be sent to the central secretariat of the Greater East Asia Press Association in Tokyo as a contribution to the magazine which will be issued shortly by the association.

'Filipina' Magazine Issued
Domei

MANILA, July 18.—Carrying a message from Mrs. Laurel, wife of the President, the first issue of the "Filipina", monthly magazine dedicated to Filipino women, came off the press on July 17.

War Story Popular
Domei

DJAKARTA July 18.—The latest publication by "Balai Poestaka" (National Library) here has proved one of the best sellers in recent years. The book, titled Human Bullets, is the Malaian language version of "Nikudan," famous war story writen by Major-General Chuon Sakurai.

Cotton Seeds Ready
Domei

PGERWOKERTO, July 18.—Ten million seeds of cotton have been prepared by agricultural authorities of Banjoemas Province for the cotton planting drive which will shortly be started throughout the province.

Soap Factories Increase
Domei

MANILA, July 18.—More than a dozen soap factories are now functioning in San Fernando, Pampanga Province, producing large quantities of soap for local consumption.

Training School Teachers
Domei

TARAKAN, July 18.—The second attendance of the training institute for all school teachers of Tarakan Province will be opened here for two weeks beginning September 1. The course offered will comprise the same as those offered in the first training course, namely, Japanese language, Japanese culture, Japanese etiquette, music, drawing, gymnastics and military training.

Good Meat Output
Domei

MANILA, July 18.—With the intensification of the raising of livestock and poultry, coupled with tremendous increase in gardening and farming, Tarlac Province has realized self-sufficiency in meat.

NORTH BORNEO UPS PRODUCTION OF OIL

Increases Output of Other Vital War Materials, Bolsters Foodstuff Setup

Domei

API, July 17.—Economic construction in North Borneo is making swift and smooth headway despite the comparatively restricted supply of labor. Particularly noteworthy is the increased production of defense materials, while great strides are being made toward self-sufficiency in foodstuffs as well as in bolstering industrial output.

In the production of defense materials, the most encouraging result is being attained in the production of petroleum at the principal producing centers such as Mill and Seria. Oil production in North Borneo now far surpasses the prewar level. In order to cope with the increased production, a giant refinery which is the largest in East Asia was recently built at a certain oil center, thus contributing greatly toward Japan's material mobilization plan.

Other vital defense materials which are being produced in increasing volume in North Borneo are antimony, mercury, and zircon as well as tannin extracts. Coal leads other underground resources in production, while smooth progress is also noted in the production of crude rubber, coke and other major trade items.

In the field of industrial production, rational readjustment is being made with the object of giving priority to the production of indispensable war materials. The manufacturing industry in North Borneo is based on sawmills and katechi plants. Sawmills are scattered throughout North Borneo with the largest located at Sandakan, Sibu, Kuching, and Mili also have major sawmills. The leading katechi factories are to be found in Sandakan and Sibu.

Remarkable progress is also noted in the production of matches, soap, candles, medicines, rubber boots, coconut oil, bricks and pottery. A recent addition to major substitute goods is wooden barrels which are produced principally at sawmills in Sibu and which are used to replace iron drums. Gunny bags are manufactured in quantity at Sandakan and Kuching from jute, manila hemp, banana fiber and various substitute fibrous materials. The production of raw cotton is being undertaken by a certain Japanese concern. Fibrous materials are also being produced, although on a small scale, at spinning and weaving mills using raw cotton and hemp as materials.

In farm production, efforts are being successfully exerted toward complete self-sufficiency in staple foodstuffs with special emphasis placed on increased production of rice. For this purpose steps are being taken to increase paddyfields throughout North Borneo. Labor for ricefields is being mustered from farmers who have shifted from rubber plantations. In the western coastal provinces, rice may be cultivated throughout the year through the utilization of an abundant water supply.

North Borneo is now emerging, not only as a vital industrial center but also a region completely self-sufficient in foodstuffs.

Concert Calendar

Nippon-Burma Friendship Concert sponsored by the Murayama Music Studio, Friday, July 21, at 6:30 p.m., at its studio, (Rokuban-cho, Kojimachi). Japanese program:—Shakuhachi, koto and samisen by S. Ito and his troupe; Tokiwazu music by Chitose-dayu; Japanese dance by Miss Setsuko Fujima; Burmese program: Native music and dance by members of the Burmese Embassy.

Concert by the Nippon Philharmonic Orchestra Saturday, July 22, at 4:30 p.m., at the Koraku-en Open Air Stadium, under the baton of Hisatada Otaka. Soloist: Miss Harue Miyake, soprano; Chorus: Tokyo Koto Ongaku Gakuin. Program: Shinichi Takata's Rikugun-Damashii; Beethoven's Symphony No. 5; Hisatada Otaka's Nandoku-no-Uta.

The 39th Dai Toa Friendship Concert sponsored by the Kokusai Bunka Gakuin; Sunday, July 23, at 1 and 6 p.m., at the Kyoritsu Auditorium, featuring Tokyo Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Koscak Yamada; Soloist: Madame Fumiko Yotsuya, alto; Dance: Dai Toa Ballet Troupe. Program: Koscak Yamada's "Atarashiki Tsuchi" Suite (orchestra, chorus and solo); Alto solo by Madame Fumiko Yotsuya:—Koscak Yamada's Jyogashima-no-Ame; Chinkoro Koinu; Higanbana; Kono Michi; Heishi-no Tsuma-no Inori; Dance suite: Koscak Yamada's "Meshii-dori" (by Dai Toa Ballet Troupe).

Concert by the Seinen Nippon Symphony Orchestra; Suhday, July 23, at 6:30 p.m., at the Hibiya Public Hall, under the baton of Tadashi Hattori. Program: Strauss' Gypsy Baron; Tadashi Hattori's Collections from Italian Folk Songs (O sole mino; Tarantella; Carmera); Songs and light music by Jyo Matsutani (piano); Juzo Matsuda (violin) and Miss Tarieko Seki (soprano); Program: Toselli's Serenade; Gounod's Serenade; Iwanowitsch's Donau Waves.

YANK AIRMEN WEAR INFERIOR UNIFORMS

Shoes, Helmets Made of Canvas Due to Shortage of War Materials

The fact that the uniforms worn by the American airmen who boarded the B-29's which airraided the Kyushu area on June 16 and July 8, were not fur-lined and that the shoes and helmets were made of canvas, attests to a shortage of materials on which the enemy depends for the prosecution of the war, commented Major Masamitsu Mori of the General Affairs Department of the Army Aviation Headquarters, in his article contributed to the July 18 issue of the Tokyo Shimbun.

Uniforms worn by American airmen are inferior to those worn by the Japanese. Airmen's uniforms are usually fur-lined, so that the fliers can stand the cold when flying at a high altitude, but none of the uniforms worn by American airmen who are active in various theaters of war are fur-lined with the exception of some that are lined with imitation fur of poor quality. Often, American airmen are seen wearing shirts or ordinary suits.

The American airmen who attacked the Kyushu area did not wear regular aviation uniforms. In order to cover up the fact that America is suffering from a shortage of vital war materials, the B-29 was propagandized as being equipped with a compressed air-chamber which enables the craft to engage in stratospheric warfare. However, contrary to the American propaganda, the B-29's which were downed over Kyushu were not equipped with such chambers. As a result, the American airmen, having barely arrived over Kyushu shivering in the cold, soon fell victims to the devastating attacks launched by the Japanese.

Regarding shoes, the ones worn by the airmen who attacked the Kyushu area were made of canvas. What a comedown for the dandy, extravagant Americans who used to wear different kinds of shoes to suit every occasion! Worse than that, some American airmen on the front are said to be wearing tennis shoes.

The helmets worn by the American airmen aboard the B-29's were also made of canvas of poor quality. The steel helmets found in the wrecked machines were made of inferior material. Various kinds of substitutes were used in the manufacture of other aircraft accessories.

High-heeled shoes are often found in wrecked American planes, revealing the fact that women wireless operators are being employed by the U.S. air forces. As all the B-29's which were downed in Kyushu were smashed, it was impossible to ascertain whether women had been on board the attacking machines or not. In connection with the employment of women on aircraft, the U.S. War Department sometime ago announced over the radio that America had some 700 women pilots, and that the number would be increased to 1,000 by December this year. This fact testifies to America's personnel shortage.

Cabinet Holds Meeting

The regular Cabinet meeting was held on Tuesday morning attended by Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo and all the Ministers.

Classified Ads.

Advertisements or replies to the same by POSTCARD should be TYPEWRITTEN and accompanied by the nationality, name and address of the sender in Japanese.

Situation Wanted

FOREIGN girl would like to help sewing at private homes. Please apply Box No. 307, Nippon Times, Kobe.

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For Sale

FOREIGN wardrobe trunk in good condition, ¥500. Also French and other textbooks. Apply Box. No. 104, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

MINK coat, medium size, latest cut, brand new, length 42 inches (106 cm.). Please Apply Box No. 105, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

Wanted to Buy

COFFEE grinder and waffle iron. Please state price to Box No. 122, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

GRAMOPHONES, records, electric gramophones, radio-gramophones, pianos, organs, accordions, refrigerators, sewing machines, electric razors, foreign furniture, new or used wanted. Attractive prices paid. Please write or phone Rhythm-sha 16 Jimbo-cho Nishiki-ma, Kanda, Tokyo. Tel. Kanda 25-4459.

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ROYAL noiseless portable typewriter, 1940 model and golf set. Cash or trade with radiophone. Apply Box No. 123, Nippon Times, Tokyo.

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PROF. Dr. K. Nakajima, skin and blood disease specialist. English, French and German spoken. Hours: 9-12 a.m., 2-4 p.m., mornings only on Sundays and National Holidays. 1 Ginza-nishi 8-chome, 2nd floor of Taya Store on street car line from Sukiyabashi, a few blocks from Imperial Hotel side entrance. Tel. Ginza 57-6813.

DR. M. TAKAHASHI (A.B., M.D. Stanford University). Specialist in ear, nose, and throat. Completely equipped, bring-in facilities. 200 yards from Meguro Tram-stop, Shimo-meguro, 1-119, Meguro-ku, Tokyo. Hours by appointment. Tel Osaki 49-0417.

General

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TOKYO, WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 1944

The Significance of Saipan

The Imperial Headquarters disclosed yesterday that the island of Saipan had fallen into the hands of the enemy. While the enemy is making extravagant claims as to the "great significance" of the loss of Saipan to Japan and while the Japanese should not in any way attempt to minimize the loss, a calm study of the general war situation will reveal that the enemy occupation of Saipan does not have the significance which the enemy is claiming for it.

The enemy, in his plans for a general counter-offensive against Japan, had evolved the strategy of attacking Japan from three directions; namely, first from India, with the primary objective of seizing Burma; second from the China mainland, with the American and Chungking air forces taking an active role; and third from the Pacific, with the forces of Admiral Chester Nimitz and General Douglas MacArthur being hurled against Japan's island ramparts.

Against this three-pronged enemy counter-offensive against Japan, the Japanese armed forces have been operating with notable success. In the Indo-Burmese border area, the Japanese Forces early this spring moved ahead of the enemy and, carrying the battle into enemy territory, bent back the first prong of the three-pronged enemy drive. On the China continent, the Japanese Forces have been sweeping the enemy out of the plains of Honan and Hunan and have been reducing swiftly Chungking's ability to continue resistance. How great has been the damage dealt the Chungking forces may be seen in the fact that Chiang Kai-shek recently termed the latest Japanese operations the greatest since the Hankow operations. Due to these Japanese campaigns on the continent, the bases of the American air force in China too have been falling into Japanese hands in rapid succession.

Only in the Pacific area has the enemy been able to achieve any semblance of success, and this with an appalling loss in human lives and materials. With reckless disregard for losses, the enemy has been hurling his forces persistently against the islands in the Pacific and has succeeded in making certain gains. However vast American material power may be, nevertheless the fact cannot be denied that the closer the Americans approach the Japanese mainland the longer will become their supply lines and the more favorable to the Japanese will become the fighting conditions. A balance is bound to be reached when the vastness of American material power will not be equal to the overwhelming burden of heavily strained supply lines.

The Japanese Forces, besides securing the advantage of shorter lines, have made full use of the time gained by the fighting in the Marshalls and on Saipan and are awaiting with confidence the chance to inflict still heavier losses in lives and materials, the cumulative effect of which will be decisive. Already the United States Government has admitted that the American armed forces have suffered 261,541 casualties since the start of the war. The figure is obviously understated and even then it already far exceeds the number of casualties in the first World War.

The enemy occupation of Saipan therefore only means that the enemy, after enormous losses—the personnel losses suffered in the battle for Saipan alone being comparable to those suffered in Normandy—has managed to gain a hold on a small point in the vast periphery of the Japanese defense. It is true that with the occupation of Saipan the enemy has moved closer to Japan than it has ever done before in the Pacific zone of hostilities, but it is also true that the determination of the Japanese to smash the enemy and their confidence in their own ability to do so has also grown infinitely stronger.

Wartime Education in China

A recent survey has disclosed that there are twenty-six institutions of higher learning in Shanghai today with a total enrollment of 12,256. The enrollment includes 3,695 in the arts and sciences, 1,998 in engineering and applied science, 2,727 in commerce, and 1,538 in medicine. These students, needless to say, are the future leaders of China and it is indeed a healthy sign that there are so many enrolled in the practical fields. Of the total enrollment 3,527 are women, which shows that the young Chinese women too are determined to contribute their share in the construction of New China.

These young Chinese men and women of Shanghai are extremely fortunate in being able to receive the benefits of higher education in the midst of the greatest war in the history of the world, when education in so many parts of the world has been disrupted and millions of young men are spilling their blood on battlefields scattered throughout the world. The fact that most of the universities and colleges of Shanghai are open and that thousands of young people are receiving an education to enable them to take a leading part in the construction of New China attests to the far-sightedness of the National Government of China as well as to the stabilized conditions in China's greatest metropolis.

Acknowledgedly, however, the conditions of higher education in Shanghai are not completely normal. They cannot be expected to be at times such as these and at a moment when China is playing a vital part in the war against Anglo-American imperialism and Chungking traitorousness. But even those schools whose own buildings and campuses have been destroyed, damaged or otherwise rendered unfit for use are carrying on in unused office buildings or other facilities. With praiseworthy fortitude and perseverance the professors and students are carrying on their pursuit of learning.

Fortunate indeed are the young people of Shanghai that their elders have the vision to direct their efforts toward the continuation of higher education even in face of wartime obstacles. Fortunate indeed are the young people of Shanghai that the conditions in their city, although accompanied by some difficulties, are better than those in most cities of Europe and America. Fortunate indeed is China that her youths are courageous and are making full use of the opportunity offered them to make themselves into useful citizens of China, to build a better China, a better East Asia and a better world.

A Year Ago Today

July 19, 1943

The first anti-Axis air attack on Rome was carried out today at 10:00 a.m., and the blind bombing of the enemy forces resulted in the destruction of the ancient San Lorenzo Church.

• • •

William Green, President of the AFL, addressing the meeting of the War Industry Workers Mutual Aid Society in Detroit, criticized the attitude of the United States Congress toward the rise in commodity prices. Green said that unless commodity prices are lowered to a proper level, labor unions must demand an increase of wages in proportion to the rise of living cost. He concluded with a threat that unless Congress gives more consideration to the interest of general consumers and, particularly, workers, American voters will not return the present members to Congress at the next election.

• • •

The United States Government announced today that the gold stored at Martinique since the surrender of France will be kept in custody of the United States until the establishment of a formal French Government by the French Committee of National Liberation.

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No less than 3,899 Americans were arrested and questioned during April under suspicion of violating the conscription law, and 548 of them were prosecuted, according to the announcement issued by the Federal Prosecutors' Office. Since the outbreak of the war violators of the conscription law has reached 4,200.

U.S. CONGRESS CRITICAL OF EXECUTIVE ORGANS

Main Complaint Is Agencies Tend to Exceed Their Power

The New York Times correspondent in Washington, Charles Egan, reports on April 30 as follows:

The latest salvo of Congressional artillery was turned loose on OPA and WLB this week through the medium of a report from the House's "select committee to investigate executive agencies." The select committee brought forth a report urging the two laws under which the agencies operate be incorporated into a single statute designed to curb the powers each now exerts.

The fact remains that it is extremely critical of the two agencies and, by implication, of most of the thirty-two war-nurtured agencies operating under the aegis of office of emergency management. There is evident a critical attitude toward all such agencies, including a dozen or more divisions set up within established executive departments.

Although there are well developed executive agencies, including such time-accepted divisions of the government as the government departments with their wartime subdivisions, those which are acting as particular irritants to a vote conscious Congress are chiefly offshoots of the office of emergency management, federal holding company for some thirty-four war-developed organizations, most of which are interfering in one way or another with the freedom of action of the average citizen.

Protests Are Effective

Complaints about such agencies add to the daily mail of every member of Congress. A protest to an individual representative or senator concerning a price agency for war or the food administration for war, as well as OPA will have effect. Such a letter cuts the average member of Congress to the quick, particularly in an election year.

There are several things he can and usually will do. One is to stand up in the House or Senate and ask for the privilege of "extending his remarks" on the subject of the overbear executive agencies. The speech as printed in the Congressional Record can then be mailed to the constituent, and everyone feels better.

If more energetic, he can introduce a bill or resolution aimed at punishing the agency, demanding that it be abolished or deprived of its appropriation. Seldom does anything come of such measures, but the effect is soothing to most all concerned.

Then there is an even more aggressive approach which results in a resolution demanding the appointment of a committee to investigate this or other agency. This is time-consuming for the senator or representative, since he usually has to serve on the particular committee selected, but it provides them a chance to express their views.

Have Influence

While a large proportion of the protests may be treated in the cynical manner indicated, there are many legitimate complaints received by Congressional members in the course of the year, and they have brought results. When a member of Congress protests, executive agency officials are compelled to listen, and where complaints are well founded, they have brought a chastening influence to bear upon the "bureaucrats" inclined to disregard the will of the people.

Congress' main complaint is that all the agencies created by the legislative branch have a tendency to overreach. By broad interpretations of any ambiguous phraseology which may be contained in a statute, the executive agency may try to accomplish by administrative order an objective the executive realizes is beyond his given powers. The defense of executive agencies to Congressional charges of an overweening desire for power invariably centers on the assertion that Congress created their agency to accomplish a certain objective, but to do so they have been compelled to stretch the authority granted them or fail completely in their purpose. Leon Henderson is a typical example.

It is doubtful if Congress will do much to handicap executive agencies before the coming elections. Most of the administrative organizations were set up to accomplish a necessary wartime purpose and the majority in both houses of Congress shows an inclination to "ride along" with the agencies until after the invasion in Europe has been successfully carried out.

Fruits of Wisdom

You arrive at truth through poetry; I arrive at poetry through truth.—Joubert.

• • •

Those who are greedy of praise prove that they are poor in merit.—Plutarch.

• • •

Nature has given us pride to spare us the pain of being conscious of our imperfections.—Rochefoucauld.

Not An Unmitigated Evil

Occurrence of China Affair Was Instrumental in Making Japan's Intentions Known More Clearly

By TEIZO TAIRA

It is hardly necessary to say that had there been full and all-round cooperation between Japan and China in the past, a situation very different from the present would be prevailing in East Asia. Nothing can be more unfortunate than that at the present momentous juncture when the work of reconstructing East Asia on independent lines is under way, part of China is still continuing resistance against this country.

When practically all the Asiatic countries were under the oppressive rule of Western Powers, Japan alone retained her independence, and, impelled by her strong sense of responsibility toward the whole of Asia, she rose to work strenuously for the defense of the common interests of all Asiatic countries. Unfortunately, however, in strengthening her power so as to fulfil her mission successfully for emancipating Asia and restoring its full independence, antagonism developed between China and herself. Notwithstanding the fact that the emancipation of China cannot be hoped for without Japan's power, many Chinese conceived the erroneous idea that Japan was increasing her strength at the sacrifice of their country's interests. These Chinese should have stopped to think deeply and recognized that the course Japan took in strengthening herself by speedy modernization was the only way of making herself capable of undertaking the work of helping the emancipation of the peoples of East Asia. The Sino-Japanese relationship in the past, no doubt, contains many lessons for both countries to profit by and to increase efforts where their exertions were wanting in the past in promoting understanding.

Cooperation Essential

There is no room for doubt that full cooperation between Japan and China is essential for expediting the emancipation and reconstruction of not only East Asia but of Asia as a whole. Confining our attention to the relations existing between the two countries in recent years, the fact is patent that Japan has been endeavoring, in all earnestness and sincerity, to promote Sino-Japanese collaboration since the famous Konoye statement. These efforts since then have been redoubled under the Tojo Cabinet. It is certainly not on Japan's side that sincerity and the will to cooperate are wanting.

In a war in which only Japan and China are involved, it may not be altogether unnatural that those Chinese who cooperate with Japan should be looked upon as Japanese spies, but the War of Greater East Asia is a war for saving Asia from the disgraceful existence forced upon it by America and Britain. It is a struggle for the attainment of a very high object unknown in the past. Recognizing the necessity of complete unification of China for achieving this purpose, Japan is prepared to give every aid to China.

I feel very deeply the great need of cooperation between Japan and China at the present moment when such historic changes are being made all over the world as are destined to produce far-reaching effects on the fortunes of Asia for the next several centuries to come. The occurrence of the China Affair naturally gave cause for profound regrets, but at the same time the Sino-Japanese antagonism is not an unmitigated evil for both parties directly concerned or for Asia as a whole. Just as a quarrel between individuals often leads to mutual understanding and close friendship, Sino-Japanese conflict, though a great misfortune in itself, may prove the medium of bringing good results in the end.

Intentions Made Clear

I doubt whether, under close Sino-Japanese cooperation, it was possible to carry out as thorough an elimination of all regrettable phases inherent in the age of reliance on America and Britain as Japan is actually doing. There is also reason to believe that antagonism has been instrumental in making Japan's sincere intentions known more clearly to some sections of the Chinese people.

Had there been complete Sino-Japanese cooperation from the start, America and Britain would most probably have attempted to maintain the old order at the sacrifice of the whole of Asia by deliberately fostering a conflict between the White and Yellow races. Again, but for the China Affair and the War of Greater East Asia, closer internal contact within the Continent of Asia, rendered possible by the development of the Northwest and of other routes of communications, might have been a matter of distant future. The recovery of independence for Asia would be impossible if communications within Asia were left in a poor and backward state when distances between all other regions of the world are being daily shortened. The routes connecting China with the outside world, which are now being developed for the express purpose of strengthening Chungking's resistance against Japan, will, sooner or later, serve the purpose of promoting cooperation between various parts of Asia. Thus viewed, it might be said that antagonism between Japan and China is, in the final analysis, paving the way for Asiatic cooperation in the new age.

True Meaning

"Since the term "the new order of East Asia" came into use, it has been subject to various interpretations, but its true meaning is, as Japan claims, to enable all East Asiatic nations to cooperate with one another, each assured of its proper place. These nations are at different stages of development and their internal structures and foreign relations, but, under the projected new order, they are to cooperate closely as they go forward while retaining their respective characteristics.

Some people are apt to interpret the new East Asiatic order as meaning simply the establishment of a new order for regulating the relations between East Asia and the countries outside of it. This is, no doubt, its main aim, but the order subsisting between East Asia and the outside world is of such a complex nature that it cannot be revised unless the order existing among the countries, in East Asia is first remodelled. Again, in order to put a new face on the order existing among the East Asiatic countries, the internal order of these countries themselves must be given a new shape. The new East Asiatic order is, so to speak, threefold structurally.

The countries in East Asia are at different stages of development, and what stages they want to or must attain differ according to the countries. The non-Asiatic countries with whom each of these East Asiatic countries is to cooperate also have different stages of development or different aims. Japan, for instance, has perfect independence and unity and is firmly allied to the Axis Powers outside of East Asia. On the other hand, China is so divided that one part of it is in the Axis while the other part is making common cause with the United States and Britain.

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There may occur union will other counries than those of East Asia. America and Britain have national characteristics essentially incompatible with those of the Soviet Union, and yet they are at the present moment collaborating with the latter. In short, it is well to keep in mind that the problem of establishing a new order in East Asia is more complex than first imagined.

In discussing the present and future Sino-Japanese relations, it is desirable that both nations look at what is fundamental and tackle it courageously. They must always be prepared to meet any situation as it arises, but in coping with the basic issues they must "make haste slowly." The fundamental problems must be solved first.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

My God,
This heart of mine is sore distraught,
How shall I worship thee aright?

Thou seest me,
And so, if love were mutual,
I should see thee:

And yet,
I see thee not:
Therefore I wander, all disconsolate:

In all thou dwellest, Lord, for ever,
Yet have I never learnt to know thee:

Thou art the Fount of purity and goodness,
I reek with sin:

My treachery, my black ingratitude,
Have dragged me down:

The world's delusion, selfishness and greed,
Have overwhelmed me:

Thou God of mercy,
Sole stay and hope,
Cometh swiftly to my aid,
And save.

• • •

Thou savest thy servants, O Lord, in their need:

For our sake thou becomest man,
To save us:

Thou destroyest the arrogant,
Thou rescuest those who sink in the waters of death:

This thy servants know well, whom thou lovest—
When the cry of pain goes up unto thee,
Thou hearest.

• • •

Still doth cruel life
Cling obstinately to the body:

Too long, too long, my God,
Have I been severed from thy presence

But soon the night shall pass,
Dawn break,
Thy promise gain fulfilment:

I wait,
Longingly, my God, I wait for thee,

EAST ASIA'S EDITORIAL FORUM

Views of Leading Journals on Pertinent Subjects

The High Cost of Liberation

(From the Noon Extra)

When Roosevelt forbade American newspapermen to use the word "invasion" several days prior to the Allied landing in Normandy and suggested that the then-impending operations be referred to as the "liberation" of France, we were inclined to believe that the President was indulging in another of his self-glorifying whims. Now, however, it is evident that Roosevelt was only preparing the ground for the presentation of a bill for the cost of the Anglo-American invasion to be paid by France if the Anglo-Americans should succeed in overrunning the country, for once the invasion got under way, Washington and London informed the French Algiers Committee that the cost of the "liberation" of France must be borne by the French people. And to secure a further stranglehold on French economy the British and American forces are bringing with them American-printed French banknotes to the tune of francs 80,000,000,000 to be accepted as legal tender in the areas "liberated" by the Allies at an exchange rate arbitrarily set by the British and American authorities.

Even the hitherto complacent British puppet, Charles de Gaulle, immediately recognized the sinister Anglo-American designs and set up a howl of protest. The "liberation" of France, if it should ever be accomplished by the Allies, would obviously mean the eternal economic subjugation of France to Britain and the United States. France, in effect, would be compelled to pay a huge indemnity to her "allies" for the honor of having her soil used twice as a battleground and for being permitted to have the flower of her youth destroyed in her gallant struggle against the Germans in 1940 while the British were fleeing from the sands of Dunkirk.

It is an ironic fact that while the Anglo-Americans have consistently claimed themselves to be the best friends of France, they actually have been and still are the worst enemies of the French. There was no need for France ever to have been a battlefield in the current war. It was Anglo-American pressure that compelled an unwilling French government to declare war on Germany in 1939; and while the French armed forces were giving their life-blood in the cause of Anglo-American imperialism, the British deserted them, and Roosevelt condemned them for cowardice for not continuing the unequal struggle.

Since then the Anglo-Americans have maintained a hunger blockade against France; they have dismembered the French colonial empire; and they have killed and maimed tens of thousands of innocent French civilians through constant terror raids on French cities and towns. It has cost the Anglo-Americans something to do all this too, and presumably the French will be called upon to foot the bill for this as well.

Meanwhile, it is impossible to calculate the suffering, privation and the loss in human lives the French will have to put up with in the great battle that has now begun in France. But whatever it costs the Anglo-Americans to inflict this damage on the French will be added to the bill for "liberation." It is hardly surprising then that the French people are strangely apathetic toward their so-called "liberators."

The Threat to Sweden

(From The Shanghai Times)

We never knew that freedom, honor, self-respect and the right to live in peace unless provoked or attacked were outmoded conceptions of a bygone age. We never knew that until the Charleston News published a leading editorial condemning Sweden for adhering to her policy of neutrality and advocating the inclusion of that country among the victims of Anglo-American terror raids.

With typical gangster logic this American newspaper arrived at the conclusion that Sweden's conception of neutrality was "outmoded" because it inconvenienced the prosecution of the war by the Anglo-Americans. Therefore, in unequivocal terms the paper demanded that Sweden discontinue her trade relations with Germany or suffer the consequences of incurring the wrath of the Anglo-Americans.

Briefly stated, the case against Sweden is this: The country is completely surrounded by Axis or Axis-occupied countries. It is completely dependent on Germany and Germany's allies for its economic existence and a great deal of its foodstuffs. Without trade with Germany more than one-half of Sweden's industries would have to close down; agriculture would perish for lack of fertilizers; the power plants would cease operating for lack of coal. In short, without German trade Sweden would be pauperized within a year, and her population would starve.

Yet, amazing as it may sound, the freedom and democracy-loving Americans have demanded that Sweden commit national suicide by severing trade relations with Germany because one Swedish export, ball-bearings, are of considerable importance to the German war effort!

If the Americans could have their way, a whole nation would be condemned to penury and starvation just in order to stop the exportation of Swedish ball-bearings to Germany. And because it is quite obvious that the Americans will not have their way with Sweden, an allegedly responsible American newspaper has come forth with an inspired proposal to bomb Sweden into submission!

This is the Atlantic Charter and the four freedoms working at full speed and top efficiency. Neutrals may not remain neutral because the self-determination of the small states is inconvenient to the United States. Neutral Turkey, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland may trade with Britain and the United States and not be guilty of "outmoded" conceptions of neutrality; but neutral Sweden, whose very existence depends on trade with Germany, may not do business with Germany because such commercial intercourse reveals a lack of "realistic" interpretation of neutrality.

General George Patton's assertion that the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union were "destined to rule the world" may have been rejected by the War and State Departments in Washington as being contrary to American aims and ideals, but Roosevelt's attempt to establish his dictatorship over the neutral world even before the great battles of the present war have been fought is ample proof of the mad ambitions entertained in Washington.

America's Part in the War

(From the Noon Extra)

If it is true that the United States will furnish 73 per cent of the men required for the invasion of Western Europe, leaving the British Empire to provide the remainder, there is no doubt in our mind but that the second front, if and when it comes, will prove to be the greatest catastrophe in Anglo-American history. We are not deliberately under-estimating the fighting potential of the United States armed forces, nor are we tossing any bouquets at the British. We are simply reviewing America's part in the war thus far and are using established facts to arrive at a logical conclusion.

The world is all too familiar with American ballyhoo in which the Americans modestly admit that they are the greatest fighters in the world with the best training and equipment and the most brilliant leadership. America, so it has been repeatedly asserted, is synonymous with courage, loyalty and devotion to duty. On that presumption the United States went merrily into war.

The heroes of Bataan and Corregidor have been immortalized in the annals of American history for the courage, daring and devotion to duty which prompted General Douglas MacArthur to desert his troops and flee to Australia and caused the Americans to lay down their arms in the Philippines after only minor resistance and despite the fact that they had supplies and munitions with which to carry on the struggle for months to come.

We remember the saga of the gallant Americans landing in French Morocco with no resistance from the late unlamented traitor Darlan and the happy battle-cry on the lips of the confident young Americans: Christmas in Tunis! We remember also that the U.S. 7th Army, made up of these fire-eating Americans, was so incapacitated after a few skirmishes against the Germans that it could not even hold a front of its own when the British 8th Army finally entered Tunis six months behind schedule. The brave American 7th Army is still "resting" in Sicily, while the British 8th Army, which had trekked from El Alamein to Tunis and then had spearheaded the invasion of Sicily and Italy, is fighting tenaciously on the Italian peninsula.

General Mark Clark's U.S. 5th Army, which had been given the signal honor of leading the triumphant march on Rome, has been broken up at Salerno, Nettuno, Anzio and Cassino. The American 5th Army is no more. Instead it is now the Allied 5th Army; and the fighting is being done by Indians, New Zealanders, Moroccans and French mercenaries at Cassino, and by Britons, Canadians and a sprinkling of Americans at Nettuno and Anzio.

That is America's contribution to the Allied war effort thus far. Five times, in Tunisia and at Salerno, Nettuno, Anzio and Cassino, Empire troops have been compelled to rush to the rescue of the "best damned soldiers in the world." If 27 per cent of the European invasion force has to bolster 73 per cent of the army of aggression, we have every right to be confident of a crushing Anglo-American defeat when invasion day comes.

ELECTION ILLUSIONS IN UNITED STATES

Foreign Policy Issue Will Remain Unchanged Regardless of Victor

The Economist on May 6 writes under the heading "Election Illusions" as follows:

Personal issues of the American election are gradually narrowing themselves down. On the Republican side Willkie and MacArthur—two of the three men who for a year past led public opinion polls—have bowed themselves out. Thomas Dewey is thus left not only as the favorite but a long way ahead of the field. With only a few weeks to go, none of the alternative names looks nearly big enough. The odds are heaviest on Dewey's nomination.

The Democratic nomination depends on the Republican. President Roosevelt undoubtedly can have it by acclamation if he wants it, and his decision will turn on his estimate of the prospects after the opposition standard bearer is chosen.

There are two circumstances in which he might conceivably step down: if the Republicans nominate a candidate so good, from the President's viewpoint, that his election would involve no break in policy; or if they nominate a candidate so bad that some other Democrat can beat him. Lieutenant-Commander Stassen might answer to the first description; Governor Bricker might conceivably answer to the second. But Dewey fills neither role, and if he is nominated Roosevelt will be, too.

Dewey's recent speech had made it plain that he would not make of foreign policy a campaign issue. If the contest is Dewey versus Roosevelt, both champions will be talking the same language on Americans' external relations.

There is one viewpoint from which this circumstance, otherwise so gratifying, is a matter for regret. There is the foreign policy issue before the American people, conventionally represented as a fight between cooperation and isolation—renamed nationalism. But the election will not decide it. Both candidates seem to like being on the same side—or at least are saying they are on the same side. In the short run this is pure gain, since it means that an administration change would not mean a foreign policy change. But in the longer run it leaves the issue undecided. This is unfortunate; but it is also unavoidable.

See Differently

Every country always sees every other country's politics as less complex and more clear cut than they really are. British opinion is making this mistake at present about America. There is a real foreign policy issue, but it is not of a nature to be settled by a single vote, even if it were clearly posed. The issue is not the state of mind to which the American people will give expression on November 7, but the state of mind that they will induce in their Congressional representatives through the long years that will follow. The position in 1920 was very similar to what it is today. Both candidates agreed on the necessity for a League of Nations of some sort; it was the mood of the country after election that settled the policy to be pursued. This is the first mistake that British opinion is making; it lies in thinking that a single vote on a single day will pronounce a clear yea or nay.

The second mistake lies in misinterpreting the nature of the question to be answered. The conflict is represented as one between cooperation and isolation, between internationalism and nationalism, between altruism and selfishness, between white and black. It is of course nothing of the sort. Doubtless there are extremists on either side who preach the pure milk of gospel. But political parties are an embodiment of compromises, and the difference between practical alternatives is much smaller.

The furthest that any American administration clothed with the responsibility of office could possibly go towards isolation would be the refusal to accept any specific commitments or to join any organization which does not leave the United States with full liberty of decision in all circumstances. The lesson of 1940 cannot be denied, and none but a lunatic fringe would try to maintain that America can disinterest itself in what passes beyond the oceans. On the other hand, it is becoming clear that not even the most international administration that is politically practicable is likely to go much beyond the League Covenant of 1919—that is, to surrender a nonsignificant segment of its sovereignty but promise to exercise that sovereignty in consultation. There is a difference, but it is much less than popularly supposed.

It is no doubt a disappointing fact that the issue is so restricted, that champions of black and white are not to run at tilt and one unhorse the other decisively and forever. But it is a fact, nonetheless, and should be recognized as such. Nothing could be more dangerous to the future of that "durable cohesion" between the major allies of today on which the world's future depends than that any one of them should harbor illusions about any other.